

Applicants provisionally elect with traverse claims 1-21 (Group I). The election is made without prejudice against the later presentation of non-elected subject matter in a divisional application. However, applicants traverse the restriction requirement. Applicants' anti-microbial composition, method of use and method of manufacture are closely and logically interrelated, as described in the specification. Performing separate searches for Group I, Group II and Group III claims would lead one through many of the same references multiple times since references to anti-microbial products frequently describe not only products but also processes for making the products. Consequently, it would not appear that consideration of all of the present claims in one application would significantly increase the effort required. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the restriction requirement.

The Examiner has also made an election requirement between the various species claimed in claims 1 and 19.

Applicants provisionally elect with traverse the species of water. This election is made to enable the Examiner to focus his search on a single species. The election is made without prejudice against the later presentation of non-elected subject matter in a divisional application. However, applicants traverse the restriction requirement. Applicants submit that the search and examination of the numerous species can be made without serious burden. (kindly see MPEP 803).

Therefore, for the reasons stated hereinabove, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and that claims 1-26 be considered for prosecution on the merits.

If a telephone conversation would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the present application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,



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